

The National Climate Assessment The Path Forward

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NCADAC

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<http://assessment.globalchange.gov>



- Defining priority efforts in the context of meeting the 2013 documents
- Managing expectations in light of very uncertain budgets
- Ensuring that the engagement strategy and ongoing regional and sectoral evaluations with our distributed partners are properly supported
- Relationship with regional adaptation “consortia”/climate services/regional adaptation network

Candidate Future Assessment Deliverables

- Rural Communities, Development and Agriculture
- Expanded International
- Biogeographical
 - Arid and semi-arid regions
 - High elevation issues
 - Arctic
 - Migratory species

- Trade, Food and Water Security
 - Environmental Justice
 - Missouri Basin (nested assessments)
 - Extreme events (continued)
 - Expanded regional assessments
-
- Indicator implementation and annual reports?

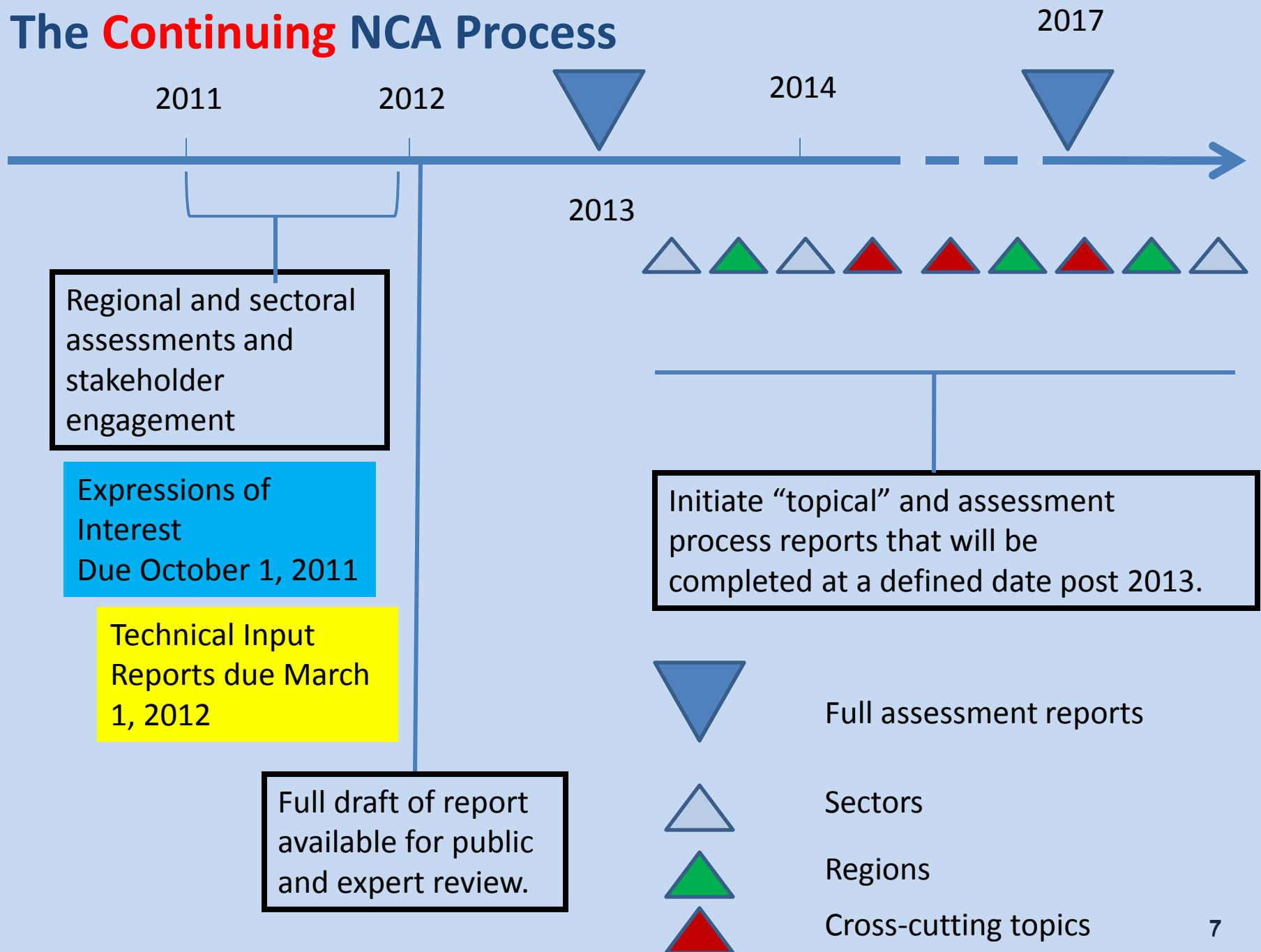
NCA Goal and Vision

- The overarching **goal** is to *enhance the ability of the United States to anticipate, mitigate and adapt to changes in the global environment.*
- The **vision** is to *advance an inclusive, broad-based, and sustained process for assessing and communicating scientific knowledge of the impacts, risks and vulnerabilities associated with a changing global climate in support of decision-making across the United States.*

Strategic Plan (Working Group 1)

- **Sustainable process** with multiple products over time
- New topics, **cross-sectoral studies**
- Consistent national matrix of **indicators**
- Central coordination, multiple **partners**
- Regional and sectoral **networks** building assessment **capacity**
- Recognizes **international context**
- Engagement and communications focus
- Web-based data and **tools for decision support**
- Process workshops to establish **methodologies**

The Continuing NCA Process



Highlights of Outline for 2013 Report

- The scientific basis for climate change
- Sectors and sectoral cross-cuts
- Regions and biogeographical cross-cuts
- Mitigation and adaptation
- Agenda for climate change science
- The NCA long-term process

Working Group 1: For Regions and Sectors, start with the 2009 document and focus on what's new

"The Art of the Possible"

NCADAC Executive Secretariat

- **Jerry Melillo, Chair**
Marine Biological Laboratory
- **Terese Richmond, Vice-Chair**
Gordon Derr, LLP
- **Gary Yohe, Vice-Chair**
Wesleyan University
- **James Buizer**
University of Arizona
- **David Gustafson**
Monsanto Company
- **Sharon Hays**
Computer Sciences Corporation
- **Thomas Karl**
Subcommittee on Global Change Research
- **Jo-Ann Leong**
Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology and Oregon State University
- **Susanne Moser**
Susanne Moser Research & Consulting and Stanford University
- **Richard Moss**
University of Maryland and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
- **Lindene Patton**
Zurich Financial Services
- **Andrew Rosenberg**
University of New Hampshire, Conservation International
- **Donald Wuebbles**
University of Illinois

NCADAC Working Groups

- Scenarios and Regional Summaries (Moss)
- Request for Information (Patton, Fleming)
- Peer Review, Information Standards, and Access (Richmond, Hays)
- Engagement, Communication, and Evaluation (Maibach, Moser)
- Regional Coordination (Yohe, Carter)
- Sectoral Coordination (Buizer, Gade)
- Science of Climate Change (Karl, Wuebbles)
- Agenda for Climate Change Science (Janetos, Liverman)
- Adaptation and Mitigation (Bierbaum, Lee, Smith)
- Indicators Development and Evaluation (Janetos)
- International (Hales)
- Long Term Process (?)

NCA Staff

OSTP and USGCRP / Washington, DC

- **Katharine Jacobs**
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NOAA Liaison to the National Climate Assessment

Sector Teams

Sector	Lead Agency	Program Lead

Cross-Sector Teams

Sector	Lead Agency	Program Lead

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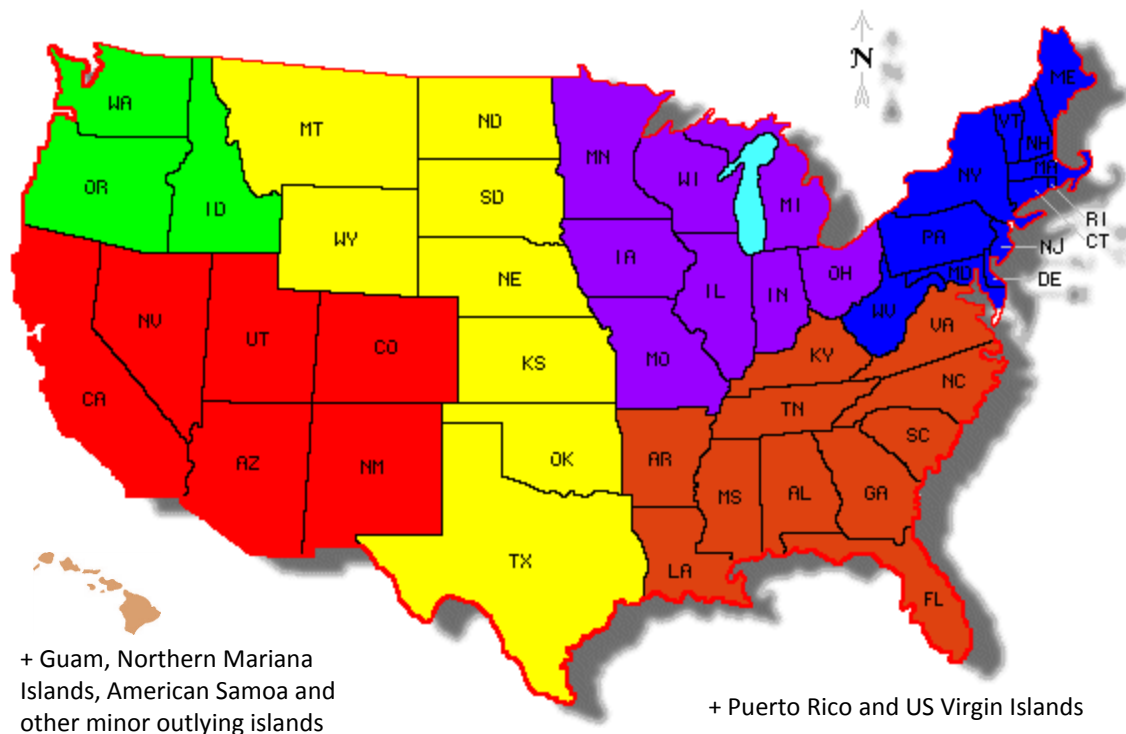
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Regions

- Northeast
- Southeast and Caribbean
- Midwest
- Great Plains
- Northwest
- Southwest
- Alaska and Arctic
- Hawaii and Pacific Islands



**National
Climate
Assessment**

U.S. Global Change Research Program

Regional Teams

Region	Lead Agencies	Lead Contact



**National
Climate
Assessment**

U.S. Global Change Research Program

Biogeographical Cross-Cuts

- Oceans and marine resources (Team has formed, led by Rosenberg and Armbrust; NOAA is lead agency)
- Coastal zone, development, and ecosystems, with case studies including
 - SF Bay Delta
 - Chesapeake
 - Gulf Coast
- Drainage basins (**WATERSHEDS?**), with case studies including
 - Great Lakes
 - Colorado River
 - Columbia River

Watersheds may be handled as “nested assessments within Regional teams, eg Colorado in SW, Columbia in NW

Outcomes of the NCA

- **Ongoing, relevant analysis** of scientific understanding of climate change impacts, risk, and vulnerability
- Enhanced timely **access to Assessment-related data** from multiple sources
- **Systematic evaluation** of progress towards reducing risk, vulnerability, and impacts
- A **sustained process for informing an integrated research program**
- **Evaluation** of the implications of alternative **adaptation and mitigation policy options**
- **Information** that provides the foundation for a science-based national discourse on climate change

Process Workshops



1. Strategic Planning
2. Midwest Regional Workshops
3. Outline and Workplan
4. International Context
5. Communications
6. Knowledge Management
7. Regional and Sectoral Approach
8. Ecological Indicators
9. Scenarios
10. Modeling
11. Vulnerability Assessment
12. Valuation
13. Physical Indicators
14. Societal Indicators

August-October Schedule